

BRITON'S RAPID RISE

Sir Rufus Isaacs' Failure as
Broker Made Him Lawyer

Spectacular Career of Man Who Is
Now Lord Chief Justice of Eng-
land—Able Advocate but Not
Much on Debate.

London—Sir Rufus Isaacs, the new lord chief justice, is a surprising man, says a London writer. To start one's career by making a sad hash of things on the stock exchange and to finish as lord chief justice of England—every generation a few people achieve careers as remarkable and there is nothing out of the way in a man's becoming a lord chief justice if his inclinations are of that kind. But of those who rise to eminence few have pursued so incalculable a path. Less than a year ago there was a quite considerable demand for his expulsion from public life; today he sits supreme over British judges.

Sir Rufus' early experiences on the stock exchange before he embraced the more lucrative profession of politics and the bar, were entirely to his credit as a man. If unflattering to his abilities as a stock broker. He might have taken that first essay as proof that he was never meant for success as a financier and so avoided his recent misfortunes. His original inclination was to become a sailor, and once, I believe, he was on the point of running away to sea in quite the grand manner of romance. But wiser counsels prevailed and he went by way of the stock exchange to the bar. I well remember him as a practicing barrister. There was something birdlike about his aspect in wig and gown, an agile alertness, a swift, clean keenness that made him stand out from the row of barristers in court like a bold pen drawing against a background of gray wash. Commerce was his specialty. Vanity Fair once cartooned him in the typical attitude of a draper's assistant, with a pile of black bundles on the counter in front of him.

Unmoved patience, astonishing grasp of detail and great ingenuity in cross-examination were his assets at the bar. His formidable rival, Sir Edward Carson, succeeds by crushing the opposition witnesses and by the vigor of the speeches to the jury. The method of Sir Rufus was more suave. His appeal was always to the intelligence of the jury rather than to its emotions. He accumulated a great



Sir Rufus Isaacs.

number of very small points and combined them in a telling total.

His parliamentary record is known. He got in for Reading in 1904, achieved in rapid succession the positions of solicitor general and attorney general, and in 1912 was promoted to the cabinet—an honor very rarely bestowed on an attorney general. It may seem paradoxical to call a man with such a tally of political successes a parliamentary failure, yet that is what Sir Rufus most distinctly is—or was.

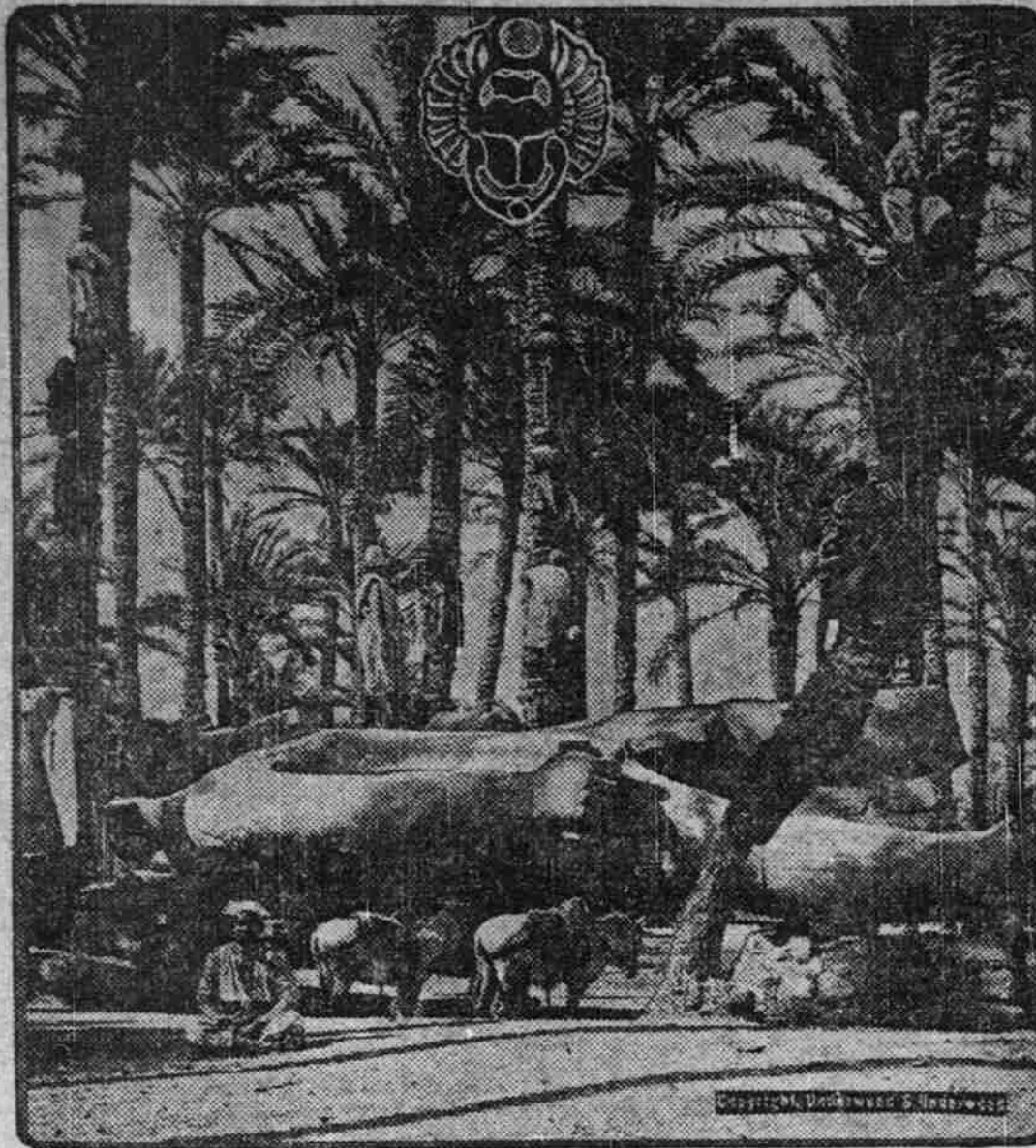
GREAT MANY USE HEROIN

Taking of Narcotic Spreading
Among Drug Fiends.

Laws Against Sale of Morphine and
Cocaine Leading Those With Habit
to Take Up Even More Dan-
gerous Substances.

Washington.—According to information gathered by the United States department of agriculture, there has been a sudden and very significant increase in the use by persons with a drug habit of the little-known but very dangerous drug called "heroin." The sales of this drug have recently increased greatly, particularly in those states which have rigid laws preventing the indiscriminate sale of morphine and cocaine. Investigation of the subject establishes the fact that many drug victims who formerly used morphine and cocaine and who under the new laws find it difficult to obtain these substances have begun using heroin, the sale of which is not as yet as carefully restricted under state laws. The drug is said to be fully as dangerous as morphine and by many is held to be much worse, for the reason that it occasionally kills the victim outright and its habit is far harder to overcome than the use of the other drugs. The department, pending further action, specially warns all people who are unfamiliar with the drug to avoid all preparations containing the substance and to

CAIRO TO GET GREAT STATUE OF RAMESES



The great statue of Remeses II., now lying on its back in a palm grove near Bedrashin, a few miles south of Cairo, is at last to be moved and set up in the center of the new square outside the Cairo railway station. The statue weighs over 100 tons and cannot be transported over any bridge in or near Cairo. The place where it lays is about two miles from Bedrashin station and special rails will be laid to the main line of the railway. It will then be conveyed over the railway line on the left bank of the Nile to Tel-el-Baroud, and from there over the main Alexandria-Cairo line to Cairo, passing over the new railway bridges at Kafr-el-Zayal and Beuha.

Everybody is weary of the affair Marconi, but it is impossible, in a review of the life of the man who is now lord chief justice, to ignore it altogether. Sir Rufus Isaacs' speech a year ago, when he denied the stories of his dealings in the shares of the company that was contracting with the government, undoubtedly made a very deep impression on the house. After hearing it I personally went away prepared to swear that he had never had any sort of dealings in any sort of Marconi shares.

Of course, he did not say that. Looking the speech up in Hansard, after the rest of the story came out, it was possible to see with what careful lawyer-like precision he had not said it. But the unfortunate fact was that while saying nothing that was not entirely true, he had left his hearers with the erroneous impression that he had bought no Marconi shares. And the wrath of the members when the whole facts became public caused the cabinet of which he was a member a great deal of anxiety.

It blew over. He and his colleague, the chancellor, had acted carelessly, heedlessly, mistakenly," as Mr. Lloyd George put it, but not criminally, and by passing no vote of censure the house accepted their explanation. While the transaction was innocent enough, whether it exhibited in Sir Rufus that clear sighted, well balanced judgment expected of a lord chief justice is a matter for personal opinion.

Though unimposing in style, Sir Rufus is distinguished in appearance. His fine, ascetic face has an almost classical beauty. Photographs do him no justice. It is the face of a fighter, a man not to be daunted, a man who would extract some sporting zest from the fight against even the bitterest adversary. He does not waste this advantage of appearance. He is well set up, a good athlete, who knows how to carry himself, and he was always one of the neatest dressed men in the house. His bodily constitution is as strong as his head. He knows how to keep himself in good hard condition. Golf, tennis, cycling, riding and rowing are recreations.

GOVERNOR FINDS WILD MAN

Fur Clothes and Wooden Leg of His
Own Make and He Carries Bees
With Him.

Moberly, Mo.—In the famous annual Missouri coon hunt here, attended by Gov. Elliott W. Major, National Committeeman Edward Goltra of St. Louis and the majority of the state officials, a wild man was captured who had lived in the woods since 1890. He had a wooden leg which he had carved from a tree limb and in a hole in the leg he carried bees which he had captured. He also had been in a curious old fashioned stove pipe hat which he wore.

Goltra captured the coon, which is the prize of the hunt, its teeth having



Gov. Elliott W. Major.

been filled with gold by a dentist. The hunter capturing the coon is conceded the best hunter.

Nearly seven-hundred persons participated in the events at the camp of the Randolph County Coon club. Five squads of hunters with more than one hundred hounds left camp at 10 o'clock at night and plunged into the sycamore forest on Elk Fork Creek.

Goltra had the distinction of bringing down the first coon. He, with Judge Charles Clark and Judge Thomas J. Seehorn, also had the unenviable distinction of remaining in the dense woods all night, losing their way and forcing the party to walk to Evansville.

A party headed by Mayor Rolla Rothwell of Moberly drove a wild man from the brush. He finally was surrounded and captured by the party and brought to camp. After he had been fed and given liquid refreshments he told the hunters his name was Thomas Siebler.

He had lived in the woods on the hunting preserves since 1890, following a disappointment in love. His clothes are of fur from rabbits, foxes, coons and possums. He had made but one trip to a large city in his life, that being in 1889, when he went to St. Louis to buy a wooden leg.

MUST AGREE TO
PAY MORE TAXES

FEDERAL JUDGE COCHRAN HITS
C., N. O. & T. P. AND C. & O.
RAILWAYS.

HEARINGS AT MAYSVILLE

Two Million Dollars Added to C., N.
O. & T. P. Assessments, and Five
Million to C. & O.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Frankfort.—Federal Judge A. M. J. Cochran, of the Eastern District of Kentucky, sitting at Maysville, Ky., listened to pleadings of the attorneys for the Cincinnati, New Orleans & Texas Pacific Railway Co., lessee of the Cincinnati Southern, on the motion of the company to enjoin the state from increasing the road's franchise assessment for 1912. Judge Cochran decided that the company must agree to pay taxes on an increase of two million dollars on the assessment before he sustains the injunction asked for, thus making the total franchise assessment \$5,529,320, the amount assessed by the state being \$10,574,200. In the matter of the C. & O. Railway Co., praying for an injunction restraining the state from increasing its franchise assessment from \$2,743,350 to \$18,798,000, Judge Cochran added \$5,000,000 to the original assessment.

In the case of the state of Kentucky vs. the Adams Express and the Southern Express on the same pleas, Judge Cochran reserved his decision and will give his opinion next week.

Postmasters, Brush Up!

The civil service commission fixed the dates in next February and the places for holding examinations for applicants for fourth-class postmaster-ships in Kentucky. From those successful in passing the examination the postmaster general will designate postmasters for practically every fourth-class office in Kentucky which pays a salary of more than \$180 a year. The list is as follows:

February 7—Bardwell, Brandenburg, Brooksville, Campton, Edmonton, Falmouth, Flemingsburg, Greensburg, Hardinsburg, Hartford, Liberty, Manchester, Morganfield, Princeton, Owensville, Salsersville, Versailles, Whiteley City, Williamstown.

February 9—Bardstown, Elizabethtown, Grayson, Jamestown, Sanders.

February 10—Leitchfield, Monticello, Morehead, Shepherdsville, Sulphur.

February 11—Greenville, La Grange, Loveland, Mumfordsville.

February 12—Albany, Mammoth Cave, West Liberty.

February 13—Stanton.

February 14—Ashland, Bowling Green, Cairo (Ill.), Catlettsburg, Cincinnati (Ohio), Covington, Cynthia, Danville, Frankfort, Fulton, Gallatin (Tenn.), Georgetown, Glasgow, Henderson, Hopkinsville, Ironton (Ohio), Jellico (Tenn.), Lawrenceburg (Ind.), Lebanon, Lexington, London, Louisville, Madison, Madisonville, Mayfield, Maysville, Middlesboro, Mt. Sterling, Newport, Owensboro, Paducah, Paris, Richmond, Russellville, Shelbyville, Somerset, Williamsville (W. Va.), Winchester.

February 16—Beattyville, Paintsville.

February 17—Booneville, Prestonburg.

February 18—Pikeville.

February 19—Jackson.

February 20—Benton, Livingston, Warfield.

February 21—Hazard, Louisa, McKee, Morgantown, Murray, Tompkinsville, Vanceburg.

February 23—Hindman.

February 25—Whitesburg.

Articles of Incorporation.

Secretary of State Crecelius approved the following articles of incorporation:

Standard Oil Co., Louisville; increasing capital from \$1,000,000 to \$3,000,000.

Yager Motor Car Co., Louisville; increasing capital from \$6,000 to \$8,000.

J. L. Strassel Paint and Roofing Co., Louisville; changing name to J. L. Strassel Co.

Premier Coal, Oil and Gas Co., St. Matthews; capital, \$50,000; incorporators, A. J. Fraley, L. M. Render and John P. Haswell, jr.

Kamp Kaintuck, Louisville; incorporators, Dr. C. W. Kelly, sr., Charles H. Gibson, W. B. Penick, Atwood R. Martin and Vernon Wolfe.

The Woodford County Hospital, Versailles; changing name to the Woodford County Memorial Hospital.

The Vanceburg Telephone Co., Vanceburg; amended articles increasing the amount of liability.

The Edgerton Mercantile Co., Edgerton; capital, \$5,000; incorporators, Jas. A. McKenzie, Garland E. Anderson and B. L. Bouldin.

Commemorate Reunion.

The creation of the Gettysburg Peace Memorial Commission, charged with the duty of determining and procuring a suitable location and the erection thereon of a memorial on the Gettysburg battle field to commemorate the reunion of the Union and Confederate veterans there last July, was proposed in a bill introduced by Representative Sherley, of Kentucky. The bill directs that the commission shall comprise the secretary of war, and would provide an appropriation of \$500,000 for the memorial.

Modeled After Ohio State Law.

The provisions of the bill creating a central tax commission for the state of Kentucky was discussed by members of the tax commission at a luncheon at the Seelbach hotel, Louisville. The provisions of the bill were explained in detail to those present by Prof. Plehn, of the University of California, who has been employed studying conditions in this state and in drafting the proposed bill.

Those present were Lieut. Gov. McDermott, Speaker Terrell, Senator W. B. Moody, of Newcastle; Senator W. A. Frost, of Wingo, and Representatives Elwood Hamilton, of Frankfort, and Peter Lee Atherton, of Louisville.

The tax limit will be submitted in a separate bill. Prof. Carl Plehn, of California, the tax expert employed by the commission, has just returned from Columbus, O., where he has been studying the results of a similar law in that state and the details of its operation. It is the opinion of the members of the commission that the limitation on the tax rate is the only way to induce people to stand for an assessment at the fair cash value of their property and to bring from cover commercial paper and other choses in action, concealed, because the total of state and city taxes would consume too large a percentage of the proceeds. The assessment features of the tax plan proposed by the commission include the use of maps and the most up-to-date office equipment, the development of a class of expert assessors under civil service rules and the system to be adopted will be to assess the real estate separate from the improvements, so that the actual value of the land in each locality will be equalized. The commission estimates that property generally in Kentucky is assessed at about 50 per cent of its fair cash value.

Reprint An Old Yarn.

The Washington newspapers, incensed because Representative Ben Johnson's committee has reported favorably a bill doing away with the half-and-half policy by which the government supports the District of Columbia, are all printing columns of matter with this scare head: "Kentucky owes nation big sum." The articles relate that Kentucky has never repaid the sum of \$1,433,757 deposited with it by the federal government in 1836 and quotes Treasurer Burke, of the United States, as saying that he will inquire whether the sum can not be "recovered."

Robert J. Tracwell, former Controller of the Treasury, said: "In 1836 the government had such a huge surplus that it didn't know what to do with it. Accordingly, it deposited about \$21,000,000 with the states then in the union. The agreement was that these states were to pay back the money if the government ever requested it. Therefore, the states, including Kentucky, have never paid. This is an old yarn which is dug up ever so often."

Armor Plant at Ashland.

The bill directing the secretary of the navy to detail a board of naval officers to select a site at Ashland for the establishment of a naval armor plant to be operated by the federal government was introduced by Senator Bradley. It was promptly referred to the committee on naval affairs and will be considered soon. "I am exceedingly anxious for this meritorious measure to pass," said Senator Bradley. "In selecting Ashland as the place for building the armor plant I took into consideration its proximity to the iron ore mines, the number of iron products that are made there and its admirable transportation facilities. I had in mind the establishment of the proposed plant at Middlesboro or Louisville, but concluded that if Kentucky is to get the plant it ought to be built at Ashland."

Waiting For House-Warming.

Governor James B. McCreary will occupy the new executive mansion by the New Year. He began moving into this home the latter part of the week and every one will be on the tip of expectancy for several days thereafter until he issues invitations for the house-warming or christening of this new building, which is expected to take place January 13 or thereabouts.

Authority On Pedagogy.

Secretary Thomas Vinson, of the Kentucky Educational Association, announced that the principal speaker for the meeting of the K. E. A. at Louisville next spring has consented to appear. He is Dean Suzzalo, of the Teachers' College, Columbia University, considered by many the foremost authority on pedagogy in the country. He is now in Japan.

McReynolds Visits Mother.

Attorney General McReynolds spent Christmas at Elkton, his birthplace, with his mother. "Christmas wouldn't seem like Christmas to me if I didn't spend it in Kentucky," said McReynolds as he boarded a train.

Kentucky Furnishes Recruits.

Maj. Gen. George Andrews, the adjutant general of the United States army, is pleased with the record that Kentucky made during the last fiscal year. He pointed out, in his annual report made public, that 3,524 prospective soldiers applied for admission to the ranks at the recruiting districts of Louisville and Lexington last year. Of this number 2,701 were rejected because of physical defects. Although only 823 recruits were accepted for service the adjutant general states that this percentage is high.

AT THIRTEENTH STROKE

By S. C. BULLETT.

Among the papers found by the lawyers of John Vereken, an old man who recently died, was the following:

I am about to write down things at which most men will scoff, but they are true, and I pray God that no one will have to go through what I have endured for thirty years. This is the story of my life.

I, John Vereken, was born in the year 1808, in Yorkshire. My father, Squire Vereken, was a kind and indulgent man, but I noticed that at intervals, a morose-ness came over him and lasted for two or three days. I often

wondered at these fits of melancholy, but I dared not ask my father, and he vouchsafed no explanation. My mother I never knew. She died when I was born. Would to God that I, too, had followed her.

I passed the usual uneventful life of the country squire's son until I was twenty years old, and then, as is only human, I fell in love.

My love was returned and the happiest moment of my life was when Lucy Derrick promised to become my wife.

Later I was sitting at the drawing-room fire thinking of Lucy, when a servant entered the room and said my father wanted to see me. He had taken suddenly ill and was in his bedroom.

I arose hastily and started for the room, for this was the first intimation I had had of his illness. Just as I opened the door, I heard a heavy booming sound like some immense church bell tolling for a funeral.

I hastily ran to his side and forced some brandy through his clenched teeth. This seemed to revive him somewhat, and he motioned me to open the drawer of his secretary. I did so and found a paper addressed to myself. He glanced at it and made a feeble effort to nod his head. The next moment his whole body shook with convulsions. He half rose from the bed, gasped and fell back. My father was dead.

The paper was still in my hands, and, mechanically, I unfolded it. This is what I read:

"To my son, John Vereken:—I address these words to you, as it were, from the grave, and I trust that you will forgive my great sin. There is a curse in our family and I, poor, weak, fool, have transmitted it to you. You no doubt, heard the sound of the bell when I died. I will tell you the story of it.

"Your great-grandfather—my grandfather—was of a generous but hasty nature. He was quick to strike, and as quick to repent of the blow. His greatest friend was Richard Bassman, whose family died with him. My grandfather loved Richard as a brother. They were always together. But one day they quarreled and Richard Bassman was shot by my grandfather. He died instantly. My grandfather was so struck with horror at the deed that he tried to kill himself, but friends prevented the act. Richard Bassman was buried the next day, and as the body was being carried to the grave, the bell in the church tolled out his years. It has tolled 12 times, and the sexton pulled the rope for the thirteenth stroke. The bell gave forth a booming sound and breaking loose from its fastenings, fell to the ground. My grandfather had been deeply affected by the tolling of the bell. At each stroke he was seen to shudder. Then came that fatal thirteenth stroke. His face grew livid and such an expression of unutterable horror came over it that everyone who saw him shuddered. His great form swayed and fell to the ground dead.

"My son, it is my earnest plea that you let our accursed race die with you. My father implored me never to marry and I resolved to follow his request, but I met the woman I loved and I fell. Will you be stronger than I? Already the bell tolled 12 times and I feel that my end is near. My son, forgive me, and heed my admonition. Do not transmit this curse to another, for it will cause your loved ones untold misery."

The next day I told Lucy all. I never saw her again for I knew that should I look upon her dear face, my resolution would vanish and I would sin as my father had done before me. She died six months later—of a broken heart.

This is my story. Thirty years have passed since that fearful night when I looked upon the dead face of my father and read the paper that sealed my doom. I am an old man. I have heard the bell toll 12 times and I feel that my end is near. I have suffered much, but as I look back upon the life, already spent, I am glad that I kept my vow. Many a time have I been in communication with Lucy, and I know that she waits for me, and—

(Here the MSS. suddenly breaks off. The body was found by the table, sitting in a chair, as in life. A pen was still clutched in the nerveless fingers.)